

DCS to Perform Federal Offset for the CCTHITA Tribal IV-D Program

Starting immediately, DCS will perform federal offset-only services via a fee for services contract with the Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA) Tribal Child Support Unit (TCSU). The Everett Field Office Tribal Team will manage these cases.

Because the State of Alaska Child Support Services Division does not currently recognize CCTHITA Administrative or Court Orders, CCTHITA requested an Agreement for DCS to perform federal offset on their behalf. DCS Director David Stillman, the Alaska IVD Director, and OCSE support this request. Click [here](#) for a copy of the Agreement.

Federal law, [45 CFR 309](#), and policy (OCSE [PIQT-10-01](#), and OCSE [TDCL-10-02](#)) outline the conditions by which Tribal IVD programs can request federal offsets from State IVD programs. Until IRS regulations are changed, Tribal IV-D programs can only request federal tax offset services by sending referrals to State IV-D programs.

Policy updated handbook sections [8.035](#) and [8.060](#) as well as the [Tribal Coding Chart](#) in section 17.035 to provide staff information necessary to process cases referred by the CCTHITA IV-D program.

It took two years to finalize a contract that is cost neutral to DCS and highly beneficial to children and families being served by the CCTHITA Tribal Child Support Unit. Special thanks to representatives from SEMS (Norm Russell), Central Services (Alex Huffman & Wendy Cole-Deardorff), Policy (Onika Garvin), Contracts (Kathy Jenkins), Audit (Theresa Murphy), Field Operations (Jan Hentze), Fiscal Services (Kathy Payne) and DCS Tribal Relations Team staff who identified costs, issues, and solutions for DCS to provide this service. Also, thanks to the Everett Field Office for volunteering to manage these cases.

This contract represents a great example of DCS's leadership in promoting state/tribal relations and thinking outside-the-box in supporting Tribal Child Support Programs.